



Mark Marchetta, Sr., Chair
Mark Resanovich, Vice Chair

Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director

TRAUMA COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2023

Committee Meeting Date and Location: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at the ODPS Shipley Building, Conference Room 1102, 1970 W. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43223

Committee Members Present: Ms. Diane Simon – Chair, Dr. Laurie Johnson – Vice Chair, Dr. Michael Beltran, Dr. Erik Evans, Dr. Kent Harshbarger, Ms. Deanah Moore, Mr. Joseph Natko, Darin Robinaugh, Dr. James Sauto, Jr., Dr. Michael Shannon, Dr. Rajan Thakkar, Ms. Rachel Velasquez, and Ms. Julie Warholic

Committee Members Absent: Dr. Marco Bonta, Ms. Sara Brokaw, Dr. Jeffrey Claridge, and Dr. Travis Perry

DPS and EMS Staff Members Present: Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director; Mr. Rob Wagoner, Executive Director; Mr. Aaron Jennings, Deputy Director; Mr. Eric Mays, Research and Analysis Chief; Ms. Sahithi Aurand, Research and Analysis; and Ms. Robin Burmeister, Support Staff

Public Present: Ms. Sara Arida, Northern Ohio Trauma System (NOTS); Ms. Kelsey Braun, Ohio Hospital Association (OHA); Dr. Henry Xiang, Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH); Ms. Megan Armstrong, NCH; Ms. Lauren Phipps, The Health Collaborative (THC); Ms. Michelle Doll, THC; Ms. Monica Rozzell, NOTS; Dr. Richard George, Summa Health-Akron; Ms. Sheri Kovach, Central Ohio Trauma System (COTS); Ms. Viola Webber, Ohio Department of Health (ODH); and Mr. Nathan Heinzerling, Akron Children's Hospital

Welcome and Introduction

Chair Simon welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. She asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Roll Call

Dr. Michael Beltran	Present	Mr. Joseph Natko	Present
Dr. Marco Bonta	Absent	Dr. Travis Perry	Absent
Ms. Sara Brokaw	Absent	Mr. Darin Robinaugh	Present
Dr. Jeffrey Claridge	Absent	Dr. James Sauto, Jr.	Present
Dr. Erik Evans	Present	Dr. Michael Shannon	Present
Dr. Kent Harshbarger	Present	Ms. Diane Simon, Chair	Present
Dr. Laurie Johnson, Vice-Chair	Present	Dr. Rajan Thakkar	Present
Ms. Deanah Moore	Present	Ms. Rachel Velasquez	Present
		Ms. Julie Warholic	Present

A quorum was present.

Education Presentation

A presentation of Nationwide Children's Hospital's EMS Priority 2-5 Research Grant Project Report, *"The Impact of Ohio's Opioid Prescriptions Law on Opioid Use and Outcomes in Pediatric Patients"* was presented by Henry Xiang, MD, MPH, PhD, MBA. It was an excellent presentation and was well received by the committee members, DEMS staff, and guests.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Simon requested a motion to approve the September 14, 2022, Trauma Committee meeting minutes. The minutes were accepted as written.

ACTION: *Motion to approve the Trauma Committee minutes of the September 14, 2022, meeting.* Dr. Sauto – First. Dr. Shannon – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

Current Status of Trauma Administration ODPS

Executive Director Wagoner reported that Division of EMS (DEMS) staffing provides challenges to fill seats.

Executive Director Wagoner reported that the Trauma Committee DEMS liaison will now be DEMS Deputy Director, Aaron Jennings.

Trauma Center Status - Chair Simon reported that there have been several trauma center verification renewals, verifications, and a couple of consultations scheduled by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) since the September 2022 Trauma Committee meeting. An updated Trauma Center status list was provided to each committee member.

Executive Director Wagoner and Chair Simon reminded committee members that if a hospital has a change in name, the DEMS needs to be notified so that the trauma center records can be updated. However, the notification needs to be an official notification in order to change a trauma center's name.

Chair Simon reported that Fran Lauriha (Seat 22) resigned from the Trauma Committee. The committee now has seven open seats. Some seats cannot be filled until there is a law change due to the restriction of only one representative per medical facility. Due to recent mergers, it is becoming difficult to find qualified representatives for the committee that does not already have an existing representative.

Executive Director Wagoner brought for discussion that under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3.17, any member who has not participated in at least 5/6ths of meetings that met quorum over a 2-year period shall be removed from the committee. After discussion and in following the law, certified letters will be sent to two committee members who have not met attendance requirements.

ACTION: *Motion to approve sending certified letters to two committee members who do not meet attendance requirements per ORC 3.17. A copy of each letter will be sent to the nominating organization(s).* Dr. Sauto – First. Ms. Velasquez – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

Chair Simon confirmed with Executive Director Wagoner that there is currently no representation on the EMFTS Board for trauma due to unfilled EMFTS Board seats.

Discussion occurred among members if an alternate can be appointed for a seat so that the named committee member can have their alternate attend meetings if necessary.

Data Submission - Mr. Mays reported that the majority of responses to the non-compliance letters that were sent out were from facilities that have to manually enter data. There were issues with the software, and the vendor discovered that the Gen-6 validation rules did not match the repository. Information was added by facilities and they received their validation; however, when the repository reviewed the data, it was failed in that area. There was no feedback mechanism to inform facilities that their records did not pass. As such, once the new software is fixed, the facilities may need to go back into the updated system and provide information to update the records. ESO® is tracking down the issue(s) and working it out. Information will go out to facilities via gov.delivery once the issue(s) is resolved.

New Legislation - Executive Director Wagoner reported due to legislation signed during the lame duck session, the DEMS is now trying to unravel the rules and timeframes that were created around some of those things.

Deputy Director Jennings reported that HB 509 mainly affects the continuing education (CE) requirements. It eliminates CE instructors. This will greatly affect smaller departments and rural agencies that could have a CE instructor who conducted CE classes in-house. Responders may now have to go to an accredited site in order to fulfill their CE requirements for recertification. This change affects air medical facilities, hospitals, and other locations that provide EMS CE unless there is an EMS-accredited site involved. Currently there are nearly 600 CE sites in Ohio that will no longer function under this new legislation. This new legislation goes into effect on

April 6, 2023 (some portions of the bill go into effect on September 30, 2024). No new CE instructor certifications will be issued after April 5, 2023.

On a positive side, individuals applying for an Ohio certification will have to go through a background check prior to receiving it.

HB 509 as proposed can be reviewed at https://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/solarapi/v1/general_assembly_134/bills/hb509/EN/05/hb509_05_EN?format=pdf

Deputy Director Jennings reported that SB 131 mainly focuses on reciprocity. Basically, as long as there is no conflict with any other rule in Ohio, an EMS and/or Fire certification holder from another state who wants to get certified in Ohio can apply for, and receive, an Ohio certification. If a person comes from a state that does not issue an analogous Ohio certification, for example, a Volunteer Firefighter (VFF) certification, that person can go to an Ohio fire department as a volunteer, obtain training, and then apply for a VFF certification and provide proof of “satisfactory work experience.” The DEMS will have to quantify what that means. If someone has a government certification, then Ohio must issue the individual an Ohio certification. Ohio has some levels of certification that require more training than other states, so this bill opens the door for those applicants to obtain an Ohio certification without additional training. Local entities may require a certification holder to obtain additional training in order to be hired. SB 131 will take effect in 2023.

SB 131 can be reviewed at https://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/solarapi/v1/general_assembly_134/bills/sb131/EN/05/sb131_05_EN?format=pdf

Identify Trauma Committee Legislative Needs –

EMFTS Board - Executive Director Wagoner reported that there are eight vacant seats on the board. Two seats are not refilled from 2021, and six seats expired in November 2022. However, the incumbents remain seated for sixty days following expiration; thus, those six seats will become open on January 12, 2023. For three of these six seats, the nominating agencies have submitted the nominating packet.

For the EMFTS Board’s Fire Committees, the Fire Rules pertaining to instructors are being updated to align with the NFPA standards. Edits to the EMS Instructor rules will also be updated.

Permission was received by the EMFTS Board and the Education Committee to publish yearly pass rates on the DEMS website. The 2022 rates by school will be posted for Ohio, and the national rates will also be posted.

EMS providers continue to be challenged with staffing. Funding is one reason. EMS needs to be made an essential service in Ohio. However, it is only an essential service in 12 states. This would likely need a state and/or local tax increase to occur in Ohio.

The Governor's task force has been reviewing the reasons for the decline in Volunteer Firefighters, and Deputy Director Jennings served on that committee. The final report should be available in a week or so.

The EMS-Children program has been moved to Nationwide Children's Hospital. Dr. Julie Leonard and Jessica Davis are overseeing the program. Ms. Davis, the program coordinator, can be reached at 614-722-4345.

The DPS has a new director, D. Andrew Wilson, who replaced Thomas Stickrath due to his retirement effective December 31, 2022, after 43 years of public service.

Medical Director Report – Dr. Cunningham (Dr. C) reported that the Regional Physicians Advisory Board (RPAB) had an RPAB Chairpersons meeting and the annual All-Member RPAB meeting in November 2022. The RPAB chairpersons will be upgrading the adult guidelines and hope to have a draft ready for the EMFTS Board Retreat in April 2023.

The Statewide Ohio Hospital Burn Surge Plan is being updated with electrical burn information, and Dr. C is drafting a burn training module for EMS. Another addition will be information on burns from lithium batteries.

Dr. C reported that the first EMS-C conference is being planned by Jessica Davis at Nationwide Children's Hospital. It is tentatively scheduled for April 10, 2023. She advised those with content that they wish to be considered for inclusion at the conference to please contact Ms. Davis.

Dr. C will be attending the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) annual meeting later this month. There will be a pre-conference workshop on Committee on Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (C-TECC) training which has not been previously available.

Dr. C informed the committee that the OnStar® Public Safety Advisory Council has launched a course for first responders that are tasked to motor vehicle crashes that involve hybrid and electric vehicles if anyone is aware of or is planning a large conference. The program that is provided by OnStar® is a hands-on operational first responder course for extrication techniques as well as safety measures for providers for hybrid and electrical vehicles. The course needs to be held at a large conference center due to the amount of equipment that is provided as it requires two tractor trailers for transport. The course is free of charge and takes about four hours. Dr. C invites anyone interested to contact her directly.

Ohio Department of Health (ODH) – Viola Webber reported that the Project Dawn Network has a new online portal. The naloxone section has the most visitors. Upcoming naloxone opportunities are grants and contracts for which an agency can submit an application.

Child Occupant Protection distributed over 1400 car seats in 2022. The ODH is finalizing the booster seat campaign designs. ODH-developed child passenger education safety materials are in the process of being updated.

For youth suicide prevention, behavioral health screening, and reducing access to lethal means, in collaboration with Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services, the ODH has a Store-It Safe QI project with the Ohio chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The project focuses on depression and suicide screenings during well visits as well as pediatric and family practices where high suicide rates have occurred. Families are provided with education and resources during well visits.

Upcoming virtual programs are scheduled on the topic of adult falls and prevention. The ODH will be hosting one Stepping On and three tai chi facilitator training programs over the next few months. There is no cost for these programs. In April, the competitive grant for adult fall prevention will be posted on the ODH website.

For additional information on the ODH and its programs, visit <https://odh.ohio.gov/?adlt=strict>

Workgroup Reports

HR Ad Hoc Committee – Rachel Velasquez reported that the committee focused on the mental health and sanity of EMS responders due to increased suicide numbers. Steve Click, a retired Ohio Highway Patrol trooper, provided a focused presentation and stated that his office at the Ohio Department of Public Safety is happy to do free presentations if requested. There is also Ohio ASSIST Post Critical Incident Seminar (PCIS), a free 3-day course that responders and their families can attend where all expenses are paid. The course is held at the Marriott Northwest hotel in Dublin, Ohio.

Performance Improvement Workgroup – No report as it did not meet in December.

Scope of Practice Ad Hoc Committee - Rachel Velasquez reported that the committee is reviewing the NREMT skills and skills in other states for comparison with Ohio's skill requirements. The information will need to be shared with the Education Committee for their review. Ultimately, decisions need to occur about what will be part of training and what will be taught by a facility where a responder works. Recommendations from the committee will be presented to the EMFTS Board in the future.

Trauma Registry Advisory Group (TRAW) – Deanah Moore reported that the November 2022 meeting was cancelled and it will meet next week. A resource document was created and will be reviewed at the upcoming meeting.

EIS Evaluation/EMS/Rehabilitation Workgroups – These three workgroups remain on hiatus.

Strategic Plan – Diane Simon reported that the resource assessment for competent workgroups received the final reports from the Universal Trauma Workgroup and the Rural EMS Workgroup. The report was submitted to the EMFTS Board at its October 2022 meeting, which accepted the report. Therefore, Ms. Simon called for a motion to sunset each workgroup.

ACTION: Motion to sunset the Universal Trauma Workgroup and Rural EMS Workgroup. Mr. Natko – First. Dr. Beltran – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

Ms. Simon reported that the OSTNL Level III Subcommittee is developing a 4-hour program that can be taken on the road to assist with training in the rural areas.

System Oversight (ORTOC) – The final NFTI draft for publication should be completed by the end of the month. For ATLS, there is a fee structure that should be paid to the ACS' Committee on Trauma and that information will be sent out.

OLD BUSINESS

EMSIRS – Eric Mays reported that the development project to update EMSIRS to NEMSIS 3.5 data is temporarily on hold as they lost their contract developer last month.

New Strategic Plan – Ms. Simon reported that there are no new developments.

Child Fatality Review Board – Ms. Simon is unaware if there has been a meeting as it generally meets about once a year.

Trauma Dashboard Prototype – A computer was set up prior to the start of the meeting, and some of the committee members moved through it. Mr. Mays and Ms. Aurand are still reviewing different avenues for its platform.

Rules - There were no updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Standard Operating Procedures for Trauma Committee – An updated Standard Operating Procedures document was created and provided to the committee. It cleaned up some language and deleted limiting the chair to two 2-year terms. Ms. Simon called for a motion to approve the proposed Standard Operating Procedures.

ACTION: Motion to approve the revised Standard Operating Procedures. Dr. Shannon – First. Dr. Evans – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

Nominations for Trauma Committee Chair and Vice-Chair – Ms. Simon called for nominations from the floor for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Trauma Committee meeting. Diane Simon was nominated for Chair, and Dr. Laurie Johnson was nominated for Vice-Chair, each nominee to serve for 2023-24. Ms. Simon called for a motion.

ACTION: Motion to approve Diane Simon as Chair, and Dr. Laurie Johnson as Vice-Chair of the Trauma Committee for the 2023-24 years. Dr. Sauto – First. Dr. Shannon – Second. None opposed. Diane Simon abstained. **Motion approved.**

New DEMS Website – Deputy Director Jennings reported that the DEMS's newly designed website has been posted for a few months, and suggestions for changes continue to be received.

All state websites are in similar website structures. We cannot change the structure but we can change the content. An inquiry was made about a map with trauma centers on borders. Mr. Mays will send the map out.

ACS “Gray Book” – Ms. Simon brought the topic of Level IV addendum development up for discussion. There is no Level IV information in the book. The ACS has asked for input from providers, state organizations, and other stakeholders about their thoughts regarding Level IV trauma centers. Level IV centers do not need resources like Level III facilities. The committee discussed what a Level IV trauma center should have available, at a minimum. Suggestions included timely interfacility transportation as this is often a challenge, a need for a nurse or physician trained in intubation, weather issues delay safe transfers, and lack of crews and staff. Ms. Simon asked committee members to send minimum treatment suggestions for Level IV trauma centers to her.

Patient Reported Outcomes (PRO) – Ms. Simon informed committee members that a PRO is a pilot program that the ACS is starting. It will monitor outcomes from following patients a year after treatment at one, two and six months, and one year. This is to get input from patients and how they feel that they are doing regarding pain control, treatment, PTSD, functionality, and degree of resolution. The ACS conducts the follow ups if patient volunteers to participate in the program.

Education for Level III Critical Access Hospitals – Ms. Simon reviewed the developing 4-hour course earlier in the meeting. See note under Strategic Plan above.

(Dr. Harshbarger left the meeting at 12:27pm. A quorum remained.)

OPEN FORUM

Executive Director Wagoner will reach out to legal counsel Mike Wise regarding if a seated committee member will lose their seat if their nominating agency is absorbed by an agency that already has a seated trauma committee member.

RECAP OF ACTION ITEMS

1. Send copy of approved September 14, 2022 Trauma Committee minutes to webmaster for posting on the DEMS website. – Ms. Burmeister
2. Send map of trauma centers in states that border Ohio to committee members. – Mr. Mays
3. Send suggestions for Level IV trauma center minimum requirements to Diane Simon. – All committee members
4. If seated on the committee and the nominating agency is absorbed by a company that already has a seated committee member, a definitive opinion from legal counsel is needed to see if the appointee would lose their seat on the committee. - Executive Director Wagoner

ADJOURN

ACTION: *Motion to adjourn at 12:32 p.m.* Ms. Velasquez – First. Dr. Johnson – Second. None opposed. None abstained. **Motion approved.**

Upcoming meetings - March 8, May 10, July 12, September 13 and November 8, 2023.

Prepared by Robin Burmeister, DEMS Support Staff